

## SFA Indian Nations Chapter 32/50 1715 Spoke Street Oklahoma City, OK 73108

### **MINUTES 10 JUN 2023**

SFA Chapter 32-50 met at the Oklahoma County Sheriff's Headquarters, 2101 NE 36th Street, Oklahoma City, OK, on Sat., 10 JUN 2023, at 1200 hours.

### Officers Present

President: Roger "Rock" Taylor Vice President: Bill Coultrup

Treasurer/Medal Sales Coordinator/ WebMaster: Jerry Cooper

Secretary/Assistant WebMaster: Pat Carr

Assistant Secretary: Charles Watts

Chaplain/Assistant Treasurer: Dick Goodman Medal Presentation Coordinator: Doug Warden

Quartermaster: David "Sarge" Cronic

## **Opening Ceremonies**

President Rock Taylor called the meeting to order, at 1200 hrs. Vice President Bill Coultrup led the Pledge of Allegiance. Chaplain Dick Goodman led the Special Forces Prayer. Rafael Elias played and the members sang the Ballad of the Green Beret.

#### Guests

Jerry Cooper again brought two artillery "red leg" guests from the 173d INF BDE Association, Tim Austin and Larry Bennett. Former SF operator, Larry Layton, visited. Jerry Cooper Invited 22 Rangers Living in Okla. to our June Meeting.

# BG(R) Paul Babiak in memory care facility

Beloved member, BG(R) Paul Babiak, is now residing in the Hennessey Care Center. His mailing address and phone number are:

Hennessey Nursing & Rehab Ctr, 705 East 3<sup>rd</sup> St, Hennessey, OK 73742 Tel: (405) 853-4390

# Ladies Auxiliary

Shirley Williams announced the ladies have amended their Constitution and By-Laws. See Shirley for copies. The ladies have donated \$1000 to the Special Forces Association and \$1000 to the Robin Sage banquet.

# Chaplain's Corner- Operation Overlord

Tuesday, 6 June, 1944! This day will never be forgotten. This day was a crucial turning point in world history. On this day, we Americans lost 2,501 gallant warriors who stormed the beaches

at Normandy through a hail of machine gun fire, hand grenades and artillery barrages! A total of 4,414 Allied troops were killed on this day, and more than 5,000 wounded. At the ensuing Battle of Normandy, 73,000 Allied troops were killed and over 153,000 wounded. Over 6,000 German soldiers were also laid to rest by the American-led Allied forces during the Normandy Invasion.

Without the bravery of those warriors on D-Day, this world would be a different place in which to live. 225 U.S. 2nd Bn Rangers, under the command of Colonel James Earl Rudder, at Point Du Hoc, with support from the 5th Ranger Bn, scaled the cliffs on ropes, through murderous German machine gun fire and hand grenades. These Rangers suffered a 70 per cent casualty rate! 77 warriors were killed and 152 wounded!

Most of us in SFA 32-50 experienced combat. Let's remember these gallant men who died or were wounded on the beaches of Normandy, as we remember our own friends and team members who fought and were casualties! I was blessed to stand on Omaha Beach a few years ago and experience something I'll never forget. It left an impression on my heart that will never fade!

As Chaplain of SFA 32-50, I want to express my heartfelt thanks to you brave men who fought in the most unpopular war in our nation's history, and I thank God you came home. We must always remember this: "No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends." John 15:16

## Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer Jerry Cooper reported the following, as of 31 MAY 2023:

General Fund bank balance	\$2,308.75
ROTC Medals bank balance	\$2,099.02
Green Beret Benevolent Fund	\$2,754.00
Total Cash in Banks	\$7,161.77

Medals Report, as of 31 MAY 2023:

Item	2023	2022	Difference	%
Medals sold since Jan 1	623	494	129	26.00%
Medals on Hand	3,108	N/A	N/A	N/A
Gross Medal Sales	\$9,357.00	\$7,406.00	\$1,951.00	26.34%
Net Profit	\$3,381.14	\$2,396.76	\$1,334.38	55.67%

# Medal Sales Inventory as of 31 MAY 2023:

Jerry Cooper picked up 2,000 medals, ribbons, and presentation boxes from MTM on 22 MAY 2023, storing them in his rental unit. Jerry paid the \$15,700.00 invoice using the Medals debit card



Embark on this historic **fully-chartered** Special Forces reunion/convention cruise and experience an <u>inclusive</u> experience featuring world-class dining, Broadway-style entertainment, exciting kids programs, expansive recreation and spa facilities, plus TWO beautiful ports of call in The Bahamas!

Reserve your cabin today and embark on an adventure that will reignite the fire within and create memories that will last a lifetime. Together, let's honor the past, celebrate the present, and embrace the future!

Register at: https://sfali.org/cruise-pre-registration-page/









Contact email: Legacy4SFA@gmail.com or www.SFALI.org



Learn more at: https://www.specialforcesassociation.org/sfacon-2024/

SFA Legacy Initiatives has signed a contract with Carnival Cruise Lines to charter an entire ship for SF, Family, and friends. The Carnival Paradise will provide an exclusive cruise experience departing from Tampa, FL on October 19, 2024. The current planning itinerary will include the following events that will also support many SF small businesses during this epic event:

October 17-18 Pre-cruise gatherings, USSOCOM events, golf tournament, poker run, supporting local SF businesses with Scuba dives, off-shore fishing, boat trips, & more October 19 - Board the ship, SF Swag, Regimental Colors flying from the mast, sail away party with nationally known music artist(?)

October 20 - Day at Sea, beer and wine tasting from SF owned breweries and wineries October 21 - Bimini

October 22 - Nassau with a shore party at the SF owned "The Bearded Clam Sports Bar", support other SF businesses with shore excursion

October 23 - Day at Sea, SF liquor tasting from SF owned distilleries

October 24 - Return to Tampa-more activities like football games, hockey games, etc... We have over 1,000 passengers already registered during the pre-registration phase.

Register today at: specialforces2024cruise@gmail.com.

During the 2023 SFA Convention (SFACON), the membership voted that this cruise will also be the venue for 2024 SFACON. SFA Chapter VIII (8), Hawaii Chapter, has stepped up to take the lead on organizing the traditional aspects of SFA conventions during the cruise. Many of you have been great sponsors and friends of the Special Forces Association and have provided support to past conventions. If you have specific questions regarding support to 2024 SFACON then please contact Pete Tingstrom, SFA Chapter VIII (8) President, at <a href="mailto:specialforces2024cruise@gmail.com">specialforces2024cruise@gmail.com</a>.

Prepare to be inspired by an exceptional lineup of keynote speakers who have conquered adversity and achieved remarkable success, both during and after their military service. Hear stories of resilience, leadership, and triumph, drawing upon the lessons learned from your time in the Special Forces and applying them to your civilian life. Potential speakers include: The Originals, Medal of Honor Recipients, Commanders of various organizations like USSOCOM, USASOC, etc. The 1st SFG and Detachment A/Berlin have already committed to conduct their reunion on the ship. We are in discussions with SOA, 5th SFG and others to do the same.

Early registration will help guarantee a cabin category of your choice since some categories will sell out quickly. All registrations prior to **June 24, 2023** will be in a drawing for prizes including a 2-cabin category upgrade (or \$1,000.00), 1-cabin category upgrade (or \$500.00), and other prizes TBD. Please register early, we need to see our numbers of where we are at in the next 30 days. If we don't meet our goal we will have to open this up to the Night Stalker Association, Rangers, Civil Affairs and other organizations to fill up the ship. There has never been an opportunity like this before, so don't be the one who sees the pictures, videos, smiles and memories after this is all over, wishing you had attended. Make the commitment today and sign up. We will be

posting new information to the SFA Teamhouse and SFACON 2024 website soon.

Rooms are designed for two occupants. If you don't have someone to come with you, we have started a forum where folks can find someone to defray the cost of the room. <a href="http://pub24.bravenet.com/forum/static/show.php?usernum=1987450266&frmid=10393&msgid=0">http://pub24.bravenet.com/forum/static/show.php?usernum=1987450266&frmid=10393&msgid=0</a>

What is included: Cabin in selected category for 2 passengers, taxes, port fees, and gratuities. 3 sit down meals a day, snacks and more throughout; non-bottled water, lemonade, iced tea, hot chocolate, and some coffees and teas. Also includes things like a Brunch, Fast Food, around the clock buffet, and ice-cream bar, Vegas type production shows, water slides, comedy club, activities for kids, competitions, etc.

Make Lifelong Connections: Strengthen the bonds forged in the crucible of the Special Forces and form new connections with like-minded individuals who share a common mission and purpose. The reunion cruise is a chance to expand your network, exchange ideas, and collaborate with fellow warriors who are making a difference in various fields.

So don't miss out on this extraordinary gathering of elite warriors. Reserve your spot today on this Global Gathering of Green Berets and embark on an adventure that will reignite the fire within and create memories that will last a lifetime. Together, let's honor the past, celebrate the present, and embrace the future.

Help plan activities and join my planning committee. Contact info is below.

### DON'T MISS THE BOAT!

De Oppresso Liber,
Pete Tingstrom
President SFA Chapter VIII (8) Hawaii
Special Forces 2024 Cruise Lead Planner / SFACON 2024 Chair specialforces2024cruise@gmail.com

# COL(R) Bill Coultrup gave a presentation on "Blackhawk Down."

#### **Old Business**

Ray Williams reported on the SFA National Convention, 22-26 MAY, 2023, in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Ray Williams' motion to approve both the Treasurer's report and the Medals Report, seconded by David Laukat, passed unanimously.

Ray Williams' motion to approve the meeting minutes for 10 MAY 2023, seconded by Bill Couldrup, passed unanimously.

Historian, Maj (R) Joe Todd, is continuing to record videos of combat veterans. Contact Joe if you have not recorded an interview.

As always, Pat Carr requests submissions for The Drop.

On 25 MAY 2023, Butch Graham presented a Chapter award to Jeff Martin Auctioneers, in Weatherford, OK, recognizing Martin's donation of our new sound system. Also attending were Jerry Cooper, Rafael Elias and Charles Watts.

### **New Business**

Sarge Cronic is donating \$250 to the Chapter from the sale of his antique weapons.

#### 50/50 Raffle

The Ladies Auxiliary won \$115 in the 50/50 raffle, which it donated back to the Chapter. Those who wish to participate in the 50/50 drawing should bring small bills. Five dollars buys six tickets. If you have a chapter coin in your pocket when you purchase tickets, you get an extra ticket.

**Our Next Meeting** will be Sat, 8 JUL 2023, at the Oklahoma County Sheriff's Headquarters, 2101 NE 36th Street, Oklahoma City. The entrance to parking is on the north side of NE 36th Street. The social hour begins at 1100 hours, and the business meeting begins at 1200 hrs. The building has no bar or refreshments.

De Oppresso Liber,

Charles J. Watts

D-2833

Assistant Secretary